McCrary House 914 Fifth Avenue Columbus Muscogee County Georgia

HABS GA 108-COLM, 35-

PHOTOGRAPHS

WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

Historic American Buildings Survey
National Park Service
Southeast Region
Department of the Interior
Atlanta, Georgia 30303

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY

MCCRARY HOUSE

HABS No. GA-2294

Location:

914 Fifth Avenue

Columbus, Muscogee County, Georgia

Significance:

This is one of three adjacent, two-story, shotgun-style houses built by blacks in

the early 1930s.

Description:

This is a side-hall, shotgun-style duplex house. Originally it housed two families,

one on each floor. It essentially is a duplicate of two neighboring buildings.

History:

Built sometime shortly after 1929 by Ethel Spencer, daughter of William Henry Spencer, the head of Columbus' black schools, and Richard Pierce, a speculator. This house is first listed in 1931 city directory as the residence of Gabriel McCrary, a black man who was an employee of the Pilgrim Health and Life Insurance Company. He continued to live there until 1936. Black occupants are

listed thereafter.

Sources:

Georgia Architectural and Historic Properties Survey-Inventory Form No. M-111;

City Tax Maps; City Directories; Muscogee County deed records; Sanborn

Insurance Maps; informant Alphonso Biggs.

Historian:

John S. Lupold, Southeastern Archeological Services, Inc., April 15, 1994.

